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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):
MONASPUMP CO., LTD. [KR/KR]; 3-MA-815, Si-
hwa Industrial Complex, Jeongwang-dong, Siheung-city,
Kyungki-do 429-935 (KR).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **LEE, Man-Soo**
[KR/KR]; 3-305 Sindonga Apt. 988-1 Bangbae3-dong,
Secho-gu, Seoul 137-758 (KR).

(74) Agent: **Y.P.LEE, MOCK & PARTNERS**; The
Cheonghwa Building, 1571-18, Seocho-dong, Seo-
cho-gu, Seoul 137-874 (KR).

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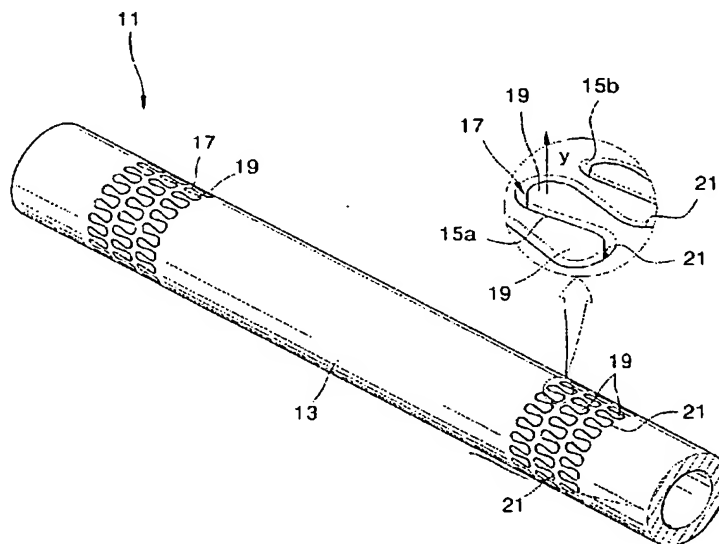
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(54) Title: FLEXIBLE TRANSMISSION SHAFT



(57) Abstract: Provided is a flexible transmission shaft. The flexible transmission shaft for transmitting a torque from a drive source to a driven load, the flexible transmission shaft includes a pipe-shaped shaft, which has one or more slits extending in a circumferential direction of the shaft, each of the slits having two opposed surfaces that are isolated from each other by the slit, a plurality of protrusions protruding from one of the opposed surfaces, and a plurality of recessions formed in the other one of the opposed surfaces to receive and support the protrusions therein. Since the flexible transmission shaft can be bent or curved within a given angle, it can be substituted for a flexible coupling, a universal joint, or a bevel gear. In addition, the flexible transmission shaft does not require additional mechanical elements to be connected to a shaft, and has a simple structure, light weight, and high torque transmission capability.

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